



## Regional Service Council Minutes Region #14

**Meeting Date:** 1/17/06

**Meeting Location:** Bartholomew Co DCS Conference Room

**Council Members Present:** Heather Mollo, Mark Loyd, Helen Jackson, LaDonna Simpson; Ruth Alewine, Michael Williams, Mary Medler, and Cindy Doyle-Winslow

**Council Members Absent:** Dennis Carmichael, Jack Tandy, and Alfredo Salazar

**Others In Attendance:** Scott Stewart (George Jr. Republic), Rob Gaskill (Youth Hope/Homebuilders), Minter Willis and Angie Willis (Mentor Homes, Inc.), Keith Weedman (Bartholomew Co DCS), Eric Ward (Cummins Behavioral Health), Jim Poulos (George Jr. Republic), Pat Smith (Turning Point Domestic Violence), and Carl Scheib (ACT Services)

<h3>Meeting Minutes</h3>
--------------------------

**Meeting Called to Order at:** 8:40 AM

- 1. Current Services within the Region Discussion:** Bartholomew Co expressed the need for more evidence-based practice; Johnson County expressed the need for more mental health services to prevent children from entering the system; Jackson Co expressed the need for more home-based parenting services; Bartholomew County expressed the need for more one-on-one home-based parenting services as well as expanded visitation (in-home) and home-based therapy services; Jennings and Shelby Counties expressed the need for more drug/alcohol/addictions services; all counties expressed the need for more transportation services. Other concerns voiced: Agency-based homemaker services (as opposed to contractual) are typically more beneficial; foster parent recruitment/licensing is a concern, particularly with the counties having adequate staffing to allocate to these functions; respite services are probably needed region-wide to some degree; a concern involving the elimination of Voluntary Services cases and the

community's ability to build and particularly maintain these services was mentioned; a concern was mentioned regarding funding IL services for 18-21 year-olds; a concern for timely suicide assessments/assistance was mentioned; a concern for more psychiatrists being available to counties to avoid delays in scheduling children for appointments was discussed.

2. **Regional Proposals Discussion:** Ruth indicated there are some discrepancies at present regarding the numbers of proposals to be reviewed as her list doesn't necessarily match the Coordinator's list. The due date for review completion has been extended, so the final recommendations will be made at the RSC meeting on 2/21. The Directors will not be meeting on 2/1, and the RSC will not be meeting on 2/6 as previously scheduled.
3. **Future Tasks for the RSC Discussion:** If the region determines at a later date that additional services are needed, an RFP can be issued with the assistance of Central Office; we may ask providers to provide service to additional counties; RSC will be involved with the mid-year provider evaluations; is there a way to partner with county councils within the region as a RSC?; all judges within the region should be kept informed of RSC initiatives (Judge Tandy had previously volunteered to forward emails/summaries); Central Office is planning regional-level "conferences" to be held May/June 2006 where community involvement (schools/probation/juvenile justice/service clubs/faith-based community) will be addressed, specifically regarding partnerships involving the communities and DCS. A suggestion was made that Purdue Cooperative Extension has experience in facilitating these types of forums within communities so they might be considered to provide assistance; a suggestion was made that Central Office needs to make a clear decision as to the purpose of these conferences since it appears, on the surface, to be contradictory to the elimination of voluntary services cases.
4. **March Meeting Agenda:** MB Lippold will be in attendance at the 3/21/06 RSC meeting. A suggestion was made that perhaps Ms. Lippold could provide a vision from Central Office regarding the role of the RSC.
5. **Public Comment:** None given.

**Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:**

2/21/06 at 8:30 AM

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 9:45 AM